6   including a definition of a fact table, at least one dimension, and a set of relations between the

7   fact table and the at least one dimension that corresponds to a star schema, the definition further

8   defining a set of operations for manipulating the data, the set of operations defining programs

9   that operate on the set of tables and the set of table columns; and

10   the computer using the definition to generate the set of tables.

1   5.   (Amended)   The method of claim 1 wherein the set of tables includes a first table and a

2   second table, and wherein the first table includes one or more columns from the second table, and

3   wherein said one or more columns are automatically populated [from the one or more columns].

1   21.   (Amended)   A system comprising:

2   a database system;

3   a first program for accessing a definition of the schema for the database system, the

4   schema defining a set of tables, a set of columns corresponding to the set of tables, and a set of

5   relationships between the tables of the set of tables, the schema further including a definition of a

6   fact table, at least one dimension, and a set of relations between the fact table and the at least one

7   dimension that corresponds to a star schema, the definition further defining a set of operations for

8   manipulating the data, the set of operations defining programs that operate on the set of tables

9   and   the set of table columns, the first program further for using the definition to generate the

10   set of tables.

1   30.   (Amended)   A system comprising:

2   means for accessing a definition of the system, the definition defining a schema for use by

3   the system, the schema defining a set of tables, a set of columns corresponding to the set of

4   tables, and a set of relationships between the tables of the set of tables, the schema further

5 including a definition of a fact table, at least one dimension, and a set of relations between the

6 fact table and the at least one dimension that corresponds to a star schema, the definition further

7 defining a set of operations for manipulating the data, the set of operations defining programs

8 that operate on the set of tables and the set of table columns; and

9   means for using the definition to generate the set of tables.

1   38.   (Amended)   [A computer program product comprising] A computer readable medium

2 containing executable instructions which, when executed in a processing system, causes the

3 system to create a system for creating a well-formed database system, wherein creating

4 comprises:

5   [a memory medium; and]

6   [a computer program stored on the memory medium, the computer program comprising

7 instructions for] accessing a definition of a system, the definition defining a schema for use by

8 the system, the schema defining a set of tables, a set of columns corresponding to the set of

9 tables, and a set of relationships between the tables of the set of tables, the schema further

10 including a definition of a fact table, at least one dimension, and a set of relations between the

11 fact table and the at least one dimension that corresponds to a star schema, the definition further

12 defining a set of operations for manipulating the data, the set of operations defining programs

13 that operate on the set of tables and the set of table columns[, and instructions for]; and

14   using the definition to generate the set of tables.

1   39.   (Amended)   The [computer program product] computer readable medium of claim 38

2 wherein the set of tables includes a first table and a second table, wherein the first table includes

3   a first column, wherein the second table includes a second column, and wherein the first column

4   and the second column are related by a join and are therefore guaranteed to be from the same

5   domain.

1   40.   (Amended)   The [computer program product] computer readable medium of claim 38

2   wherein the set of tables includes a first table and a second table, and wherein the definition

3   defines that the first table relates to the second table by a many to one relationship, and wherein

4   the generating the set of tables includes automatically generating a foreign key column in the first

5   table, wherein the foreign key column is for holding a foreign key to the second table.

1   41.   (Amended)   The [computer program product] computer readable medium of claim 38

2   wherein the set of tables includes a first table and a second table, and wherein the definition

3   defines that the first table relates to the second table by a many to many relationship, and wherein

4   the generating the set of tables includes automatically generating an associative table

5   corresponding to the first table and the second table, and wherein the associative table has a

6   unique value created for each unique many-to-many relationship between the first table and the

7   second table.

1   42.   (Amended)   The [computer program product] computer readable medium of claim 38

2   wherein the set of tables includes a first table and a second table, and wherein the first table

3   includes one or more columns from the second table, and wherein said one or more columns are

4   automatically populated from the one or more columns.

1   43.   (Amended)   [A computer data signal embodied in a carrier wave comprising] An

2   electromagnetic medium containing executable instructions which, when executed in a

3   processing system, causes the system to create a system for creating a well-formed database

4   system, wherein creating comprises:

5   [a computer program, the computer program comprising instructions for] accessing a

6   definition of a system, the definition defining a schema for use by the system, the schema

7   defining a set of tables, a set of columns corresponding to the set of tables, and a set of

8   relationships between the tables of the set of tables, <u>the schema further including a definition of a</u>

9   <u>fact table, at least one dimension, and a set of relations between the fact table and the at least one</u>

10   <u>dimension that corresponds to a star schema,</u> the definition further defining a set of operations for

11   manipulating the data, the set of operations defining programs that operate on the set of tables

12   and the set of table columns[, and instructions for]<u>; and</u>

13   using the definition to generate the set of tables.

1   44.   (Amended)   The [computer data signal embodied in the carrier wave] <u>electromagnetic</u>

2   <u>medium</u> of claim 43 wherein the set of tables includes a first table and a second table, wherein

3   the first table includes a first column, wherein the second table includes a second column, and

4   wherein the first column and the second column are related by a join and are therefore guaranteed

5   to be from the same domain.

1   45.   (Amended)   The [computer data signal embodied in the carrier wave] <u>electromagnetic</u>

2   <u>medium</u> of claim 43 wherein the set of tables includes a first table and a second table, and

3   wherein the definition defines that the first table relates to the second table by a many to one

4   relationship, and wherein the generating the set of tables includes automatically generating a

5   foreign key column in the first table, wherein the foreign key column is for holding a foreign key

6   to the second table.

1   46.   (Amended)   The [computer data signal embodied in the carrier wave] <u>electromagnetic</u>

2   <u>medium</u> of claim 43 wherein the set of tables includes a first table and a second table, and

3   wherein the definition defines that the first table relates to the second table by a many to many

4   relationship, and wherein the generating the set of tables includes automatically generating an

5   associative table corresponding to the first table and the second table, and wherein the associative

6   table has a unique value created for each unique many-to-many relationship between the first

7   table and the second table.

1   47.   (Amended)   The [computer data signal embodied in the carrier wave] <u>electromagnetic</u>

2   <u>medium</u> of claim 43 wherein the set of tables includes a first table and a second table, and

3   wherein the first table includes one or more columns from the second table, and wherein said one

4   or more columns are automatically populated from the one or more columns.